

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 313606  
ORIGIN ARA-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-05 ISO-00 /009 R

66011  
DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/P:ASCFULLER:MG  
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-----310242Z 039724 /73

O 310120Z DEC 76  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 313606

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT SANTIAGO 12232 ACTION SECSTATE 30 DEC 76

QUOTE

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 12232

LIMDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS DOD FOR DIA

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS:PINT, EC, PE, BL, CI  
SUBJECT: WAR FEARS IN THE ANDES

1. NAVY CHIEF OF STAFF ADMIRAL LE MAY CALLED IN DCM AND DATT  
OSTENSIBLY TO SHARE NAVY'S VIEWS ON SOUTH AFRICA. AFTER 45  
MINUTES LE MAY FINALLY GOT TO THE POINT STATING THAT HE WAS  
CERTAIN THE RUSSIANS WOULD TEST PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER SOME  
PLACE IN THE WORLD WITH THE MOST LIKELY TROUBLE SPOTS BEING  
SOUTH AFRICA, YUGOSLAVIA OR PERU.

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2. WITH RESPECT TO THE PERUVIAN SITUATION LE MAY SAID HE  
WAS MOST CONCERNED BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUING RUSSIAN AND  
CUBAN INFLUENCE. THE RUSSIANS HAD JUST OFF-LOADED A SHIP  
FULL OF 400 "ADVISERS" AND EVEN NORTH KOREANS WERE ENTERING  
THE COUNTRY (VIA PANAMA) TO TEACH TERRORISM. HE UNDERLINED  
THAT PERU'S MILITARY STRENGTH WAS OVERWHELMING AND THAT

HE EXPECTED THAT THE PERUVIANS WOULD IN FACT TRY A CROSS  
BORDER INCURSION ON JANUARY 20 WHILE THE WORLD WAS  
OCCUPIED WITH THE CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATIONS IN THE US.

3. DCM RESPONDED THAT AS USUAL SOUTH AMERICAN CAPITALS  
WERE FILLED WITH REPORTS AND RUMORS, THAT USG HAD THE SITUATION  
UNDER CONTINUING REVIEW AND THAT OUR BEST JUDGEMENT WAS THAT  
THE CHANCES OF IMMEDIATE HOSTILITIES WERE NOT GREAT. LE MAY  
RESPONDED THAT IN ANY CASE HE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF HIS  
CONCERNS WERE TRANSMITTED TO WASHINGTON. HE ADDED THAT IN THE  
CIRCUMSTANCES HE THOUGHT IT IMPERATIVE THAT THE EMBARGO ON  
ARMS SALES TO CHILE BE INTERPRETED TO ALLOW THE SALE OF  
COMMUNICATIONS AND RADAR EQUIPMENT TO CHILE.

4. COMMENT. LE MAY'S JITTERY REACTION, COMBINED WITH THE  
MOREL MISSION, INDICATES THAT THE GOC IS MORE CONCERNED  
THAN INITIAL ARMY REPORTS SHOWDED (IR 6 817 0300 76).  
LE MAY COULD BE EXAGGERATING IN HOPES OF GENERATING A US  
CAUTIONARY STATEMENT TO PERU OR TO OBTAIN AT LEAST  
ASSURANCES FROM US INTELLIGENCE.  
POPPER  
UNQUOTE ROBINSON.

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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